intensification of patrolling, including riverine patrolling, by the Border Security Force and implementation of the Prevention of Infiltration of Foreigners (PIF) and Mobile Task Force (MTF) schemes.

[English]

Transporters Racket

2237. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "A racket worth crores", appearing in the 'Hindustan Times', dated the April 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the effective steps taken to check the thriving racket against the Traffic Police/Transporters in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). According to the Delhi Police, no such organised racket has come to notice. Regular checking are conducted, inter-alia, by the Vigilance staff and action is taken against officials found involved in corrupt practices.

Settlement of Dues by Railways

2238. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending final settlement of the dues of the retired/deceased Railway employees for more than three months particularly the cases of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees in Ratlam Division of the Western Railway;

(b) the reasons for the delay in settlement of these cases;

(c) whether the responsibility for delay in settlement has been fixed; and

(d) the steps taken to make payment in all these cases expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Fake Notes

2239. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "ISI opens a new front with fake notes", appearing in the 'Indian Express', dated May 19, 1994;

(b) if so, whether Border Security Force recovered a significant number of counterfeit notes in April, 1996 from Jatha of piligrims when they surrendered Pakistan currency before crossing the border;

(c) whether in April, 1996 Gujarat Police Crime Branch had also seized fake currency amounting to Rs. 35,000 from the narcotics smuggler;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government to the whole issue; and

(e) the concrete steps being taken to check the circulation of fake notes in the country by militant outfits and smugglers with a view to destabilising the Indian economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) According to information received from the Government of Gujarat, 351 forged Indian currency notes of Rs. 100/- denomination amounting to Rs. 35,100/- were seized by the police in Kutch District on April 9 and 12, 1996.

(d) and (e). The State Governments/UT Administrations have been instructed to tighten the machinery to tackle the problem of counterfeiting of Indian currency. The RBI issues press releases from time to time to enable the public to distingush between genuine and fake currency notes. The CBI has also created a Special Unit for exclusive investigation of counterfeit currency notes. The Border Security Force has alerted its forward troops to be more vigilant.

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation

2240. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present status of the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). In response to the demand raised in Parliament, the Press and the travelling public for bringing about qualitative improvement in railway catering services, it is proposed to set up the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation. The objective is to upgrade and professionalise the catering

services through franchising the existing contract managed facilities and to provide the development of tourism related infrastructure.

The proposal has been examined at the inter-Ministerial level and is now being submitted for approval of the Central Government.

[Translation]

Assistance for Pollution Control

2241. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Canadian agency has offered to provide financial and technical assistance for the pollution control in Indian industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed in this regard by the agency; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (d). A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Government of India and the Government of Canada on 10th October, 1994 for a project called CII—Environmental Management Project to enhance India's capacity to promote environmentally sound industrial development. Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is extending a grant assistance of Canadian $7 millions for the Project. The project is being implemented through Confederation of Indian Industries (CII). The objectives of the project are to promote environmentally sound industrial development and application of appropriate environmental policies for industry to raise environmental awareness and interest in eco-efficiency in Indian industry in adopting eco-efficient measures and to promote Indo-Canadian Technology Cooperation in energy and water management. The project also envisages conducting training in Industrial Pollution Prevention and training sessions for Pollution Control Board Inspectors. The term of the MoU is upto 31st December, 2001.

Terrorist Activities

2242. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of serious criminal cases have been registered in many States against Daya Singh Lahoria Deputy Chief of Khalistan Liberation Force and a dreaded terrorist;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Efforts have been made for seeking extradition of Daya Singh Lahoria through Interpol Wing of CBI. As a result, the judge of the District-Court of Northern District of Texas (USA), has passed orders for his extradition and that of his wife. A requisition for their formal extradition to India is being sent by Ministry of External Affairs on the request of Interpol Wing of CBI.

STATEMENT

As per records available, Daya Singh Lahoria is involved in the following cases

1. Case FIR No. 84/95, dt. February 25, 1995, 307/364 IPC, 3/4/5 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Malviya Nagar, Jaipur (Rajasthan).
2. Case FIR No. 57/95, dt. February 17, 1995, U/S 365 IPC, PS Ashok Nagar, Jaipur (Rajasthan).
3. Case FIR No. 219/94, dt. April 19, 1994, U/S 364 IPC, PS Kavi Nagar, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh).
4. Case FIR No. 316/93, dt. September 11, 1993, U/s 302/307/323/326/427/435/120-B IPC, 3/4/5 TADA (Prevention) Act, 4/5 Explosives Act, PS Connaught Place, New Delhi.
5. Case FIR No. 150/93, dt. March 10.1993, U/S 302/364/35/34 IPC read with 25/27/54/59 Arms Act, 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Sriniwaspuri, New Delhi.
6. CBI Case RC 6(S)/92 SIU-V-CBI, New Delhi, dt. August 5, 92 U/s 120 B IPC read with Section 3 and 5 of TADA (Prevention) Act and 25 Arms Act and 5 and 6 Explosive Substances Act.
7. Case FIR No. 291/91, dt. October 9, 1991, U/S 365/368/120-B IPC, 3 and 4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Lodhi Colony, New Delhi.
8. Case FIR No. 81 dt. 1.5.1988 U/s 307/34 IPC 25 Arms Act, 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS Sadar Patiala (Punjab)
9. Case FIR No. 34, dt. 5.5.1987 U/s 392 IPC, 25 Arms Act, 3/4 TADA (Prevention) Act, PS City Khanna (Punjab)
10. Case FIR No. 25, dt. 22.1.1988 U/s 302/307/34 IPC, PS Kotwali, Barnala (Punjab)
11. Case FIR No. 109, dt. 27.11.87 U/s 380/457 IPC, PS Raikot, District Jagraon (Panjab).